

Message Text

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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

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1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE IN WASHINGTON ON AUGUST 21.
 2. SECRETARY KISSINGER, DANA, AND JOHN, AND MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS: THIS IS A VERY SAD OCCASION FOR ALL AMERICANS AS WE GATHER HERE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO A GREAT PATRIOT -- ONE OF OUR MOST ADMIRERD AND ONE OF OUR MOST RESPECTED DIPLOMATS -- RODGER DAVIES LEAVES BEHIND MANY FRIENDS, AND MANY, MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE CAREER THAT HE SELECTED. HE POSSESSED THE FULL MEASURE OF MANY OF THOSE ATTRIBUTES WHICH ARE SO INVALUABLE -- AS A PERSON AND IN THE CAREER THAT HE SOUGHT. HE HAD JUDGMENT, HE HAD DIGNITY, HE HAD WISDOM AND HE HAD HUMOR -- AND ALL OF THESE ARE NECESSARY INGREDIENTS FOR THE JOB THAT HE CHOSE FOR HIS FULL LIFE. AS THE SECRETARY HAS MENTIONED, RODGER DAVIES WAS A PROFESSIONAL MAN IN THE FULLEST EXTENT. HIS SERVICES TO OUR COUNTRY EMBODIED THE BEST OF TIME, OF
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EFFORT AND COMPETENCE. HE LOVED AND WORKED FOR PEACE, AND HE LOST HIS LIFE IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE -- FOR ALL AMERICA AND ALL THE WORLD. ON MONDAY OF THIS PAST WEEK, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE SOME REMARKS TO A GROUP WHO HAD SERVED THEIR COUNTRY IN UNIFORM, AND I HAD THE SAD OCCASION TO ANNOUNCE TO THAT GROUP THE LOSS OF LIFE BY RODGER DAVIES-- AND I SAID TO THEM, AND I REPEAT HERE TODAY: SOME SERVE IN UNIFORM. SOME SERVE IN OTHER CAPACITIES. THE LOSS OF LIFE IN EITHER CASE MEANS AS MUCH TO AMERICA AND THEREFORE, IT'S APPROPRIATE ON THIS OCCASION THAT WE PAY A VERY SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO A GREAT AMBASSADOR, HIGHLY RESPECTED BY HIS FRIENDS -- A PERSON WHO GAVE HIS FULL LIFE TO THE CAREER THAT HE SOUGHT. AND SO I SAY IT'S AN HONOR FOR ME, ON THIS OCCASION, TO PRESENT ON BEHALF OF ALL AMERICA -- THE AMERICAN FLAG, DANA, THE AMBASSADOR'S FLAG -- WHICH YOUR FATHER, AS MY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SERVICE OF THIS COUNTRY, BROUGHT SUCH GREAT DISTINCTION. KISSINGER

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